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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BANGKOK 007508

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DEPARTMENT FOR PM/DTCC -- BLUE LANTERN COORDINATOR
(TWATKINS)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ETTC](#) [KOMC](#) [TH](#) [BLUE LANTERN](#)

SUBJECT: BLUE LANTERN LEVEL 3: PRE-LICENSE END-USE CHECK ON
LICENSE 05-979109

REF: SECSTATE 206518

1. Per reftel request, here are the results of Post's inquiries into the bona fides of Bangkok Helicopter Services Co., Ltd. and The General Aviation Co., Ltd.

Company Profile per the Thai Department of Business Development, Ministry of Commerce: The Bangkok Helicopter Services Co. Ltd is filed under registration number 1553/2538, dated 29 JUN 1995. Capital registration was 30,000,000 baht, the company executives are listed as Mr. Phongsak Witthayakon, Mr. Thawatwong Thanasumit, Mr. Witthaya Manawanitcharoen, Mr. Wanlop Athikhomprapha and Mr. Phuttihiphong Prasatthong-osot. Address listed is 1111 Phloenchit Road, Lumpini Sub-District, Pathumwan District, Bangkok. Prior to June 23, 2005, the company was known as "The Thai Kuga Helicopter and Petroleum Service Co., Ltd. The company has filed annual financial reports for the years 1999-2004 inclusive.

Purpose of Company: To provide and service instruments and equipment.

Company Profile Per the Thai Department of Business Development, Ministry of Commerce, The General Aviation Co. Ltd is filed under registration number (2)1431/2539, dated 21 MAR 1996. Capital registration was 20,000,000 baht, the company executives are listed as Mr. Thongchai Lamsam, Mr. Sueptrakun Sunthontham, Lt. Suchin Phaholyothin (Royal Thai Navy), ADM Thawichai Liengphibun (RTN), COL Mom Luang Phongchumphunut Thongthaem, Mr. Prasoet Chusaeng, Mr. Chamnan Chotkhamwong. Address listed is 102 Na Ranong Road, Khlong Toei Sub-District, Khlong Toei District, Bangkok. The company has filed annual financial reports for the years 1999-2004 inclusive.

Purpose of Company: To wholesale, retail sell airplanes and military equipment of all kinds.

The Company also has a sister company, The General Aviation Development Col, Ltd. Registration No. (1) 151/2543, dated 10 FEB 2000. Capital Registration 10,000,000 baht. Company executives is COL Mom Luang Phongchumphunut Thongthaem. Address is 102 Na Ranong Road, Khlong Toei Sub-District, Khlong Toei District, Bangkok. The company changed its name from "The Asia Solar Co., Ltd." on March 25, 2005. The company has filed annual financial reports for the years 2000-2004 inclusive.

Purpose of Company: To manufacture and sell solar cell-generating equipment.

Neither Bangkok Helicopter Services, Co., Ltd nor General Aviation Co., Ltd. are listed in the phone Directory.

POL FSN made an unannounced visit to the General Aviation Col, Ltd. -- the Foreign Consignee listed in reftel, on December 2, 2005 and was met by COL Mom Luang Phongchomphunut Thongthaem, President of the Company. He said that the company is a subsidiary of the Loxley Public Company, Ltd. His business card listed The General Aviation Co., Ltd. as a Bell Helicopter Textron Representative. COL Mom answered all questions posed in reftel:

1 Can General Aviation confirm it placed an order for the helicopter mentioned in reftel?

Yes. The purchase of the Bell 430 and KRG-33 and QRS-11 equipment was confirmed.

2 How will this aircraft be used?

It will be used as an Air Ambulance by the well-known hospital, Bangkok General, which is the actual owner/user. Bangkok Helicopter, Co., Ltd. will provide pilots, engineers, and maintenance. The aircraft will be the first air ambulance in Thailand.

3 Will it operate only in Thai airspace?

Primarily yes. However, if there is an official emergency request for medical airlift from a neighboring country and

the RTG approves, it is possible the helicopter could fly into another country's airspace.

14. Does General Aviation have ties to the Thai military?

General Aviation, while serving as Bell's representative in Thailand from November 2004-November 2005 provided spare parts, maintenance, and technical support to the Royal Thai Armed Forces.

15. Is there a specific need for the QRS-11 sensor to be included in the transfer?

COL Phonchomphunut does not know about the technical specifications of the QRS-11. He could not provide copies of a DSP 83 or contract No. 14484 described in reftel. COL Phonchomphunut was also uncertain as to the exact location of Bangkok Helicopter, claiming to have been contacted by Mr. Thawatwong Thanasumit directly and meeting him in his own office.

POL FSN made an unannounced visit to the address listed for Bangkok Helicopters later that day and was told by a secretary that Mr. Thawatwong was abroad on business. The

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secretary said that Mr. Thawatwong is the Senior Vice

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President for Bangkok Helicopter. The secretary suggested FSN visit a nearby office complex, the UM Building, to see Bangkok Helicopter's headquarters. No one at that location had ever heard of Bangkok Helicopter.

On December 6, POL FSN spoke to Mr. Thawatwong by phone (66-2-265-5910 as stated in reftel). Mr. Thawatwong refused to meet POL FSN, claiming his schedule was too tight. He was not cooperative in answering questions saying that inquiries should be directed at the seller, Bell Helicopters. He was unwilling to provide any written answers or documentation clarifying the queries outlined in reftel. His verbal replies to reftel questions are:

1. Can Bangkok Helicopter confirm it placed an order for this helicopter?

Yes. According to Thawatwong, a contract has been signed.

2. How will the aircraft be used?

It will be used by Bangkok General Hospital but operated by Bangkok Helicopter.

3. Will it operate only within Thai airspace?

Yes, it does not have a range to leave Thailand. If there is a request for medical assistance outside Thailand, the Royal Thai Armed Forces generally responds.

4. Does Bangkok Helicopter have ties to the Thai military?

No.

15. Is there a specific need for the QRS-11 sensor to be included in the transfer.

Mr. Thawatwong does not know what the sensor does. He said that the seller, Bell, proposed its sale and he agreed to purchase it.

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